

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

18 August 1959

MEMORANDUM TO HOLDERS OF USIB-D-70.2/2, 13 August 1959

SUBJECT : Ad Hoc Soviet Weapon Systems Requirements Committee

Please change the number of subject document to

USIB-D-70.2/1.

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USIB-D-70.2/1
13 August 1959

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Ad Hoc Soviet Weapon Systems Requirements Committee

On 11 August the Intelligence Board noted the attached memorandum and approved the recommendations of the Committee set forth in paragraph 4.



Executive Secretary

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USIB-D-70.2/2
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Status of Ad Hoc Soviet Weapon Requirements
Committee

1. Pursuant to USIB instruction (USIB-D-1./5, 12 June 1959) the Ad Hoc Soviet Weapon Requirements Committee has reviewed its present status and considered the desirability of its continuation as a formally constituted body.

2. The Committee believes that its work since 1957 has contributed in limited degree to increased intelligence community awareness of the need for improved methods of analyzing Soviet weapon system requirements. It notes that USIB representatives participating in national estimates on Soviet military programs have generally acquired greater familiarity with the problems and techniques of weapon systems evaluation, and that USIB member agencies are exploiting more fully the results of available operations analyses. Intelligence components are attempting to maintain close liaison with the operational components of their respective services and with the operations analysis groups affiliated with the Government, although this effort is still limited by security restrictions. A re-orientation of certain national intelligence estimates has been effected in order to facilitate analysis of the major military missions for which Soviet planners have weapon system requirements.

3. Little progress has been made, however, in the effort to find ways and means of undertaking, in behalf of the USIB as a whole, an initial background study which would adequately test the applicability of operations analysis techniques to the problem of estimating Soviet weapon requirements. Because of a combination

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of pressure of other commitments, difficulties of perfecting techniques, and other obstacles, existing qualified operations analysis groups do not appear to be currently available for such a project. To date, Air Force techniques have not been developed to the point where they can determine the immediate effects of actions and counter-actions of both sides and thereby satisfy the objectives sought by the Committee.

4. The Committee therefore recommends that:

a. The Ad Hoc Soviet Weapon Requirements Committee be disbanded on the ground that it has pursued this matter as far as now seems useful;

b. USIB agencies continue to monitor operations analysis groups to which they have access, and as appropriate report to the USIB the results of operations analyses and weapon systems evaluations which have favorable promise of contributing to estimates on Soviet military programs;

c. Should promising methods develop, this Committee should be revived.



Lt. General, USAF (Ret.)
Chairman

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27 July 1959